

# Danson vetoes South of Carlton meeting

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

Efforts by South of Carlton residents to use Neighbourhood Improvement Program (NIP) funds from the Federal Government to buy housing in their area have suffered another set-back.

Under NIP, federal, provincial and city money is to be made available to improve selected deteriorating neighbourhoods. South of Carlton has been selected as one area to get this money. The South of Carlton decision was to buy up existing houses, renovate them and sell them at a discount to non-profit housing co-ops in the area. This would stabilize the area and provide inexpensive accommodation for those most in need.

The City of Toronto has gone

along with this concept and allocated their share of the NIP funds to it. The federal government has vetoed such a use for NIP funds.

The South of Carlton strategy was to invite Barney Danson, Minister for Urban Affairs to a meeting of South of Carlton residents and confront him on the issue.

However a recent letter from Mr. Danson's office states that he will not attend such a meeting, nor has he changed his mind on the matter:

"I can assure you that Mr. Danson continues to believe that the integrity of NIP should be preserved and that program funds should be used only for its primary function of improving deteriorating neighbourhoods."

The letter then states that Mr. Danson is aware of the need for

more subsidies for non-profit co-op housing groups (the letter refers to them as the "third force") in Toronto. It then comes up with this solution:

"His thinking about a higher level of assistance was the main factor behind the amendment to the National Housing Act introduced in Parliament just before Christmas. When this legislation is passed, it will permit CMHC to purchase land on behalf of a non-profit group and lease it at a subsidized rate in lieu of the 10 percent capital contribution. We are hopeful this legislation will be approved in time to be of benefit in the early summer."

Critics in the South of Carlton area have a number of questions about the letter and its contents:

- Is Mr. Danson getting his mail? Does he really know what is going on? (The letter was signed by Eric Acker, Special Assistant.)
- South of Carlton want to buy

up existing housing to prevent their neighbourhood from deteriorating. The letter says that NIP funds can only be used to improve deteriorating neighbourhoods.

• For CMHC to buy up land and rent it to non-profit housing groups is no answer. There is no land in South of Carlton, only houses.

• Because of the high cost of housing in the area, co-op housing groups want more than 10 percent capital contribution or a subsidized lease on the land and a 10 percent capital contribution. But not one in lieu of the other!

South of Carlton intends to keep fighting the issue. A meeting is planned that will include the aldermen for wards six and seven and the mayor with Mr. Danson. A delegation from South of Carlton will attend.

A brief is being written that will further outline and clarify the South of Carlton situation. It is planned to give this to Mr. Danson.

As a last resort, South of Carlton may send a delegation to Ottawa to meet directly with Mr. Danson on the whole issue.

## Ward 7 motorists to fight permit parking

by ART MOSES

An angry group of Ward 7 residents has vowed to continue the fight against permit parking.

At a well-attended meeting Jan. 23 at Woodgreen Community Centre, the residents prepared to campaign amongst their neighbours, urging everyone to attend a special Public Works Committee meeting on permit parking on Feb. 4. The meeting will be held at City hall and begin at 8 p.m.

"If enough people come Feb. 4 and tell the politicians about the problems caused by permit parking, the scheme could be shelved and our \$12 returned," one resident said.

Nobody at the Jan. 23 meeting had anything good to say about permit parking. Most Ward 7 residents east of the Don and south of Danforth have enjoyed free overnight parking for more than two years and the scheme eliminates it. (A meeting for the west side of Ward 7 on Jan. 21 also opposed permit parking.)

"It costs a fortune to drive a car. Why should the city take advantage of us for parking in front of our houses," a Wardell St. resident said.

"I just bought a house and I pay taxes on it. We pay taxes on the roads, so why double up and force us to pay to park in front of our houses," K. Lewis of Logan Ave. said. "Some people who have garages and driveways park on the street and shouldn't, but some garages aren't large enough."

One woman suggested that City Hall was "missing all that money it used to collect when we got tickets overnight. Now they've figured out a way to get the money without having to send policemen around to write out tickets."

A Riverdale Ave. resident complained he used to be able to park on nearby Logan Ave., if Riverdale was full. Now he will be ticketed because his permit is only valid on Riverdale.

Several members of the Playter Area Residents Association (north of Danforth) attacked the permit scheme, saying the city could not impose a uniform parking solution on the whole city.

"Parking should be determined on a street-by-street basis," PARA president Vern Burnett said. She explained her area does not favor free overnight parking, but PARA supports it in areas that want it.

Linda Jain from the Bain Ave. apartments said parking space in the apartment complex is limited, and most people must look for space on neigh-

bouring streets. "Permit parking would make it unbelievable."

Anne Gray from Langley Ave. proposed City Council relax the restrictions against "boulevard" or "on-lawn" parking in this area. The meeting later passed a motion asking for easier regulations on boulevard parking if residents on a street approve.

Ward 7 aldermen John Sewell warned residents that unless many people attend the Feb. 4 meeting, City Council will probably impose permit parking the next day.

Alderman Janet Howard urged people to write down their complaints and bring them to the Feb. 4 meeting at City Hall. Both Ward 7 aldermen oppose permit parking, but most other council members support it.

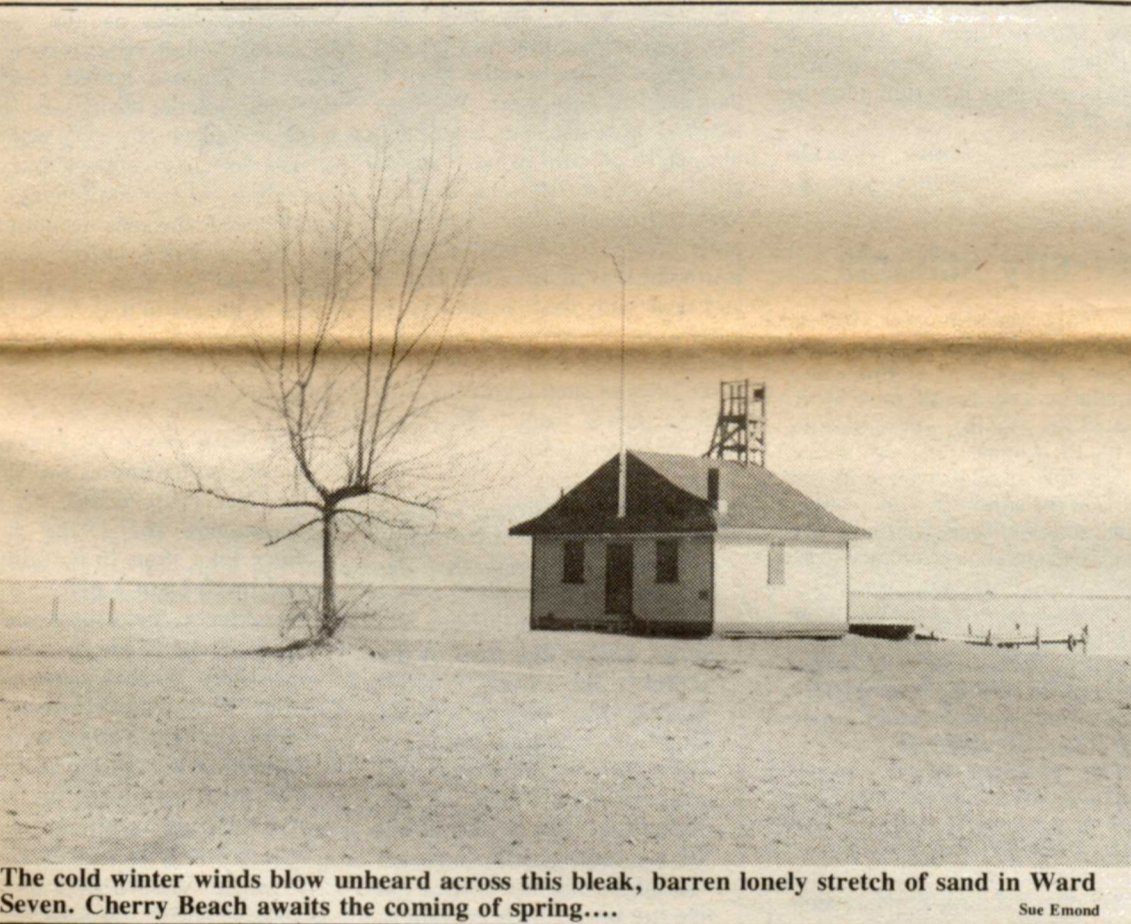
Permit parking was supposed to have come into effect Jan. 1 in Wards 3, 7, 8 and 9. But faced with hundreds of complaints, Council decided to re-examine the issue at its next regular meeting Feb. 5, after the discussion Feb. 4 by the Public Works committee.

The Works committee meeting may be the last chance to convince the politicians that permit parking won't work.

Meanwhile, the residents will be circulating a petition against permit parking, while they urge people to attend the Feb. 4 meeting.

**A public meeting on the Parking Permit issue will be held on Tuesday, February 4, at 8 p.m. in the Council chambers at Toronto City Hall. The meeting is being sponsored by the Public Works Committee of City Council and this Committee will be present at the meeting.**

**The meeting will be open to deputations by individual speakers and groups on the whole parking permit issue. If you are concerned about the Parking Permit issue attend this meeting and make your voice heard.**



The cold winter winds blow unheard across this bleak, barren lonely stretch of sand in Ward Seven. Cherry Beach awaits the coming of spring....

Sue Emond

## Action slow on Riverdale Zoo Site

by SALLY CAUDWELL

With all the attention that Voss and the New Zoo are getting lately we at Ward Seven

News began to wonder about the Old Zoo, our own neighbourhood Riverdale Zoo. What's happening with the old

site?

On calling the City Parks Department I found out that the community approved plans for an old-fashioned farm with barns and a frame farm house, paddock areas, picnic and nature spots are still in the offing.

Construction hasn't begun as yet, but the City of Toronto only officially took possession of the site on December 15, 1974. Until that time the Zoo staff were using the buildings for the quartering of some zoo animals. The animals have now been moved to the new zoo and construction will begin in earnest in the spring.

In a year and a half's time, or so, we can envisage a nineteenth century farm with a farm house flanked by old-fashioned barns where we'll be able to enjoy real old time square dances—a place where children will be able to mix with horses, cows, ducks—and all this just at the end of Winchester Street.

## Trefann starts phase two

by J. OLIN

By now many of you familiar with the saga of Trefann Court might have reckoned that Trefann has been phased out of existence! However, such is not the case. Several community meetings have been held in the last two months with the major item on the agenda being consideration of alternative plans for Phase II of the Scheme (Trefann Street over to River Street).

The basic planning for the remaining area and the properties required to implement the plan were established in the Scheme Document which was approved by Council in 1972.

Although a number of condi-

tions have changed since then, most of the designated properties have been acquired such that a number of planning alternatives can be implemented reasonably soon.

Alan Dudeck, City Planner for Phase II is presently consolidating and revising the alternatives through a series of block meetings, discussions in the site office and community meetings. The next community meeting is scheduled for early February at which time the plans will be reviewed again and further revised.

If the senior levels of government will fulfill their functions properly, completion of the Scheme may soon be in sight.

# 7 NEWS

SEVEN NEWS is a bi-weekly, community-owned newspaper published by Seven News, Inc., 265 Gerrard St. East. Editorial offices are located at 80 Winchester Street, phone 920-8632. SEVEN NEWS does not support any political party or individual and invites all members of the community to write for it. The opinions expressed in SEVEN NEWS are those of the individual writers and do not represent the views of the staff or publishing organization. However, if errors in fact are brought to our attention, we will print a suitable correction.

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## LETTERS



### Dog owners are feeble-minded, replies reader

Dear Editor:

The "doggie war" has raged on and on, without the desired results. It's opened a whole can of worms, but was initiated with the hope that those dog owners who allowed their pets to roam the streets at will, without any consideration for the rest of the world, would not need a brick to fall on their heads to take the hint.

They've shown themselves to be as lazy and irresponsible as I had originally felt they were. Today I walked my dog. Twice he had his face urinated upon; twice I walked into dog shit on the sidewalk, and I had three loose dogs follow me all the way home.

Only when I am downright nasty to the animals do they go their own way, to rip up someone's garbage bags, or ruin some once-proud neighbour's lawn.

But it's the owners that want to be nasty too. Naturally, they are

nowhere to be seen. It's not some poor dumb creature's fault that his poor dumb master cares only about his own comfort. He should never have been allowed to keep a pet in the first place.

What's the answer?

One day soon, we will ALL be forbidden to keep an animal of any sort, because you feeble-minded,

negligent owners out there have taught your pets to be scavengers and pests.

As recent letters to this paper have shown, there is already a backlash, and your contribution to your community is to ruin it for the rest of us.

Name Withheld  
Wellesley St. E.

### Teacher criticizes inner-city schools

Dear Sir:

I am writing you this letter in response to the December 7th edition article by Barr and Cressy on the Crisis in Inner-City teaching.

Having spent the past eight years up to June 1974, teaching in Inner-City schools in Ward Seven, I feel I must at least give one person's reasons for leaving this form of teaching.

Community, to me, means control by a small intellectual group

who have specific goals for the schools and they try to force these goals on to the rest of the school population. As for the rest of the population, apathy would best describe their interest in the schools.

The low standards being set by some of the administrators result in inner city children having a low level goal and thus no chance to get ahead in a competitive world.

The lack of promotional opportunities for inner city teachers causes good teachers to leave both the area or the city completely. This to me would be more important than extra pay.

The problem of no supply teachers only compounds the shortage of teachers in general. Also there is the frustration of a fixed pupil-teacher ratio which means that classes in North York are identical in size to those in Cabbagetown. And yet the job downtown is twice as frustrating and demanding.

This, coupled with the additional community pressures, poor administration and the frustration of working with apathetic parents leads to a "nobody cares" attitude and increased absenteeism.

If Doug Barr or Gord Cressy were to phone some other school boards and say they were unhappy inner-city teachers, they would quickly find out how happy other boards would be to accept their services.

Promotional opportunities overwhelmed me when I looked outside of Toronto. I chose to be a Vice-Principal of a senior school in Lindsay.

It seems that inner-city experience only counts if you move out of Toronto.

Robert G. George  
Lindsay, Ont.

### Crossing Guards—unsung heroes

The Editor, 7 News:

Re your article about Spruce Court School winning the Police Safety Award in the Dec. 7, 1974 issue.

It is good that a Ward Seven school has won such an honour, but let us not forget the dedicated men and women who make such an event possible, namely the School Crossing Guards.

These people are a group of dedicated men and women, hired by the Metro Toronto Police, to help our children safely across our busy streets while going to and from school.

A crossing guard gets paid the minimum wage of \$2.25 per hour as required by law, but they do not get paid for legal or school holidays, nor are they given any pay. Although employees of the Police Department, they are not good

enough to be members of the Police Association.

By contrast, the Parking Control Unit men are the fair-haired boys of the Police Department. They make good money with no responsibility, and are given good warm uniforms to wear. Crossing guards only get a plastic cape to wear and a beat-up old "STOP" sign to use.

In short, the Police discriminate against the crossing guards.

Regardless of what the weather may be, the crossing guards are on the job because they are interested in the safety and well-being of our children. Yet they go unnoticed and unheralded by the Police and public alike.

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## School Board meeting a shambles

Dear Editor:

On January 16, the Toronto Board of Education held a public meeting at Jackman school to hear community opinion on the proposed Greek-Canadian bilingual and bicultural program for Jackman and Frankland public schools.

The meeting fell short of its goal in every respect.

Valuable time was spent on procedural matters. No time limit was imposed on speakers. The more vocal English-speaking opposition managed to interrupt proceedings repeatedly to air their views, thinly disguised as questions.

By 10 p.m. few people had been heard. Fifteen speakers were waiting their turn, no issue had been resolved and the meeting was almost out of control with frustrated speakers shouting to be heard. A motion to adjourn to another night was defeated, and finally the meeting agreed on closing discussion and moving on to the vote. Those who wanted their views recorded were invited to remain after the

meeting.

A rational discussion of the proposed program would probably have resulted in the same outcome—a vote overwhelmingly in favor of the program—but would have demonstrated that democracy, and not merely the appearance of democracy, had been carried out. No progress was made towards expanding the community's awareness of the needs of the Greek family and the problems which arise when the children adopt a new language and a new life style more rapidly than their parents.

Many English-speaking residents criticised the channels of communication set up by the Board of Education—they felt that one public meeting was inadequate for full community consultation. Trustee Gordon Cressy pointed out

that widespread publicity had been going on for a month, allowing ample time for individuals or groups to contact the school principals or Board members, in order to discuss the detailed draft of the program.

Apparently the Jackman area residents' group, although sufficiently organized to send a bloc of about 20 persons to the meeting, did not call their own meeting beforehand to discuss the program. Frankland Community Council, a parent/teacher/community group in the Frankland area, called a public meeting on January 9, at which the program was given full endorsement by a vote of 17 to 3. The F.C.C. representative at the January 16 meeting was among the many speakers not heard because of the vote to close discussion.

Helen Lenskyj

### Concern expressed for elderly

To the editor  
Seven News:

We live in a throw-away society. Not only do we dispose of glass, old furniture, and clothing, but, we also dispose of people. But, we don't just dispose of people. We do it in a very cruel manner. We consider that they are old so we make laws to retire them at that magical age of 65. We consider some people are needy and ultimately determine what minimal allowance they SHOULD live on. We determine through science and other precise means that someone is in some way disable, bad or mad and deal with them according to other laws. But how can we make ourselves more comfortable as we make laws in such a way so as to prevent people from feeling useful. Consider the following:

1. The Social Planning Council in its supplemental edition of "Trends Affecting the Development of Social Services in Metro Toronto" (Dec. '71) states that at the turn of the century, the "over '60's" represented approximately 4% of the total population. In 1970, the over 60's represent approximately 11% of the population. It is doubtful that this percentage will decrease. We might ask ourselves what are the laws which pertain to 11% of our population and how do they waste human resources?

One glance at the federal income legislation and the provincial "GAINS" program and it is easy to see the assumption that pensioners WILL NOT WANT TO BE EMPLOYED. In fact, the legislation penalizes him or her should they work. If he works, he retains his old age pension but every guaranteed income supplement dollar is subject to some calculation towards reduction of his guaranteed income supplement. Not only that, but when he works, his income becomes taxable. In a society which values work as a measure of self-esteem and independence, the pensioner who is in receipt of monies from the federal and provincial governments is se-

verely penalized should he even work part-time.

It is my opinion that people who are over 60 are a great asset to the community at large IF THEY WERE RECOGNIZED. One organization which recognizes these human resources is the "Associated Senior Executives of Canada." These retired consultants help smaller businesses. This is one way in which people who are over 60 are given opportunities to contribute their expertise and knowledge to the general community. Senior VIP's utilize seniors who would not work for pay because of the cut in their basic pension income. These are two ways of utilizing valuable life experiences of others.

2. The Task Force on Employment Opportunities for Welfare Recipients (Feb. '72) recommends that "the province take steps to formulate and implement a plan to address the employment needs of the hard-core disadvantaged. While I agree with this recommendation, I would further propose that all legislation pertaining to pension incomes under the federal National Health and Welfare scheme be amended to allow for meaningful incentives in work. In this way, those who are in receipt of their pension and indeed there is no reason why other income programs cannot be revised to allow people to work without deductions from their basic living allowances. This would provide means for valuable and potential human resources to be used and re-cycled!

Please feel free to write to your federal minister stating:

a) That you disagree with regulations pertaining to the calculation of earned income for people who are in receipt of income from National Health and Welfare schemes.  
b) You would recommend that persons should be able to keep their basic living allowance if they are in receipt of part-time earnings. Depending on their economic requirements, they should be entitled to keep their basic living allowances as well.

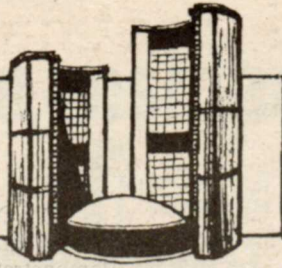
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## city hall report



by JANET HOWARD  
Alderman Ward 7

Both Ward 7 aldermen—John Sewell and I—have chosen to work together at City Hall with four other aldermen as a group which we call The Reform Caucus.

In the 1972-74 term of Council, John Sewell, Dan Heap (Ward 6), Mike Goldrick (Ward 3) and Dorothy Thomas (Ward 9) found that they usually voted the same way on important issues and were trying to accomplish the same kinds of things. Generally these were matters of putting the interests of ordinary people ahead of the usually conflicting interests of the rich, powerful real estate industry.

However, the four aldermen often found themselves on the losing side. It seemed to them and to interested people in their wards that the only way to shape City Council policy was to co-operate closely. Instead of reacting all the time to bad proposals, they should be coming up with good ones and seeing that these got the necessary votes.

I had found during several years of involvement in community issues that those four aldermen were the ones I could count on to support the work I was doing. Allan Sparrow, who

won on Dec. 2 over William Archer in Ward 6, felt the same way, so we both joined.

The Reform Caucus meets every week to discuss our aims, priorities and action to be taken on matters coming up on the various committee agendas. We are preparing a series of discussion papers for our own use to clarify what we want to achieve in the next two years and how to do it. I am working on the subject of housing: we have new laws and sources of funding available to make possible a variety of solutions to housing problems, so where shall we concentrate our energies? (I'll be writing more about this soon.)

Co-operation in The Reform Caucus extends to voting together on City Council. Having thoroughly gone over the issues before hand, we will, if necessary, take a vote among ourselves and stick to that decision when it comes to Council. Six solid votes are noticeable out of a total of 23 and already have had their effect on the permit parking issue.

One principle members of The Reform Caucus have in common is to keep in touch with our wards. Please phone me (367-7916) or write if you have any comments, questions or suggestions.

## Library seeks input

The Toronto Public Library Board is seeking information on which to forecast long-term future needs in the east end of the city. At present, there are six neighbourhood libraries in the area, most of them old and used to capacity. Recently, the Board acquired a site at Danforth and Caithness, where a District Library may be constructed, to serve as a central, larger collection and to provide back-up services to the branches. An advisory Committee, comprising all members of the Board and representatives of ratepayer and community groups, whose function it is to examine alternative plans for improving library services in the east end and to organize the participation of the

community, has been gathering information since early summer, 1974. The final decision on how services are to be improved will be made after the Committee reports to the Board.

In the spring of 1975, a series of public meetings will be held in Wards 7, 8 and 9 to obtain and provide further information, before the Committee reports to the Board. Before embarking on these meetings and subject to funds being made available, the Committee plans to have a comprehensive survey made of both users and non-users of libraries in the east end, in order to obtain information from the public on how library service can best be improved.

## Neighbourhood legal services gets grant

Neighbourhood Legal Services, a community organization in Ward Seven that has been struggling along for three years with little or no funds has finally received a substantial grant to set it up in business.

The grant they have received is from the federal Department of Justice and is for the sum of \$21,000. With this money, the Board of Directors of the service plan to hire a lawyer and two and a half staff people for a period of nine months starting Feb. 1, 1975.

However, even after hiring staff, the service will not be in full operation for some time. Initially, the staff will undertake a para-legal

training course so that they can offer sound, competent advice to people.

When they do set up business, Neighbourhood Legal Services will offer advice and help on welfare, tenant, small claim and consumer protection problems.

Another problem foreseen by the organizers of the service will be setting up a degree of community control over the whole operation.

## Regent Seniors entertained at opening

by DOROTHY SANGSTER

It's hard to say what pleased 150 senior citizens most when they gathered at 41 Oak Street on January 21—the lively evening of music and comedy by a group of entertainers headed by veteran singer Violet Murray, and Billy Meek of TV's "Pig 'n Whistle Show", or the smart new panelled rooms, with kitchen and wash-room facilities, provided by the Ontario Housing Corporation for future use by seniors of North and South Regent Park.

The two new rooms, each 20' x 62', were created with O.H.C. funds from unused basement space after Mrs. Marion Waterson (Community Relations, North Regent Park) had recognized their potential use as clubrooms for senior citizens. They were designed in consultation with members of the Regent Park Busy Bee Club, as a comfortable place for parties, meetings, games, movis, and handicraft sessions. Safe and easy access to the rooms is provided by two elevators and four external stairways. Attractive lounge furniture, lamps and pictures—chosen by the seniors themselves—is on order and a New Horizons grant has provided a new piano and a stereo set, as well as funds for handicrafts.

After months of planning, the rooms are now ready, and on Jan. 21 the traditional red ribbon was cut by Mrs. Margaret Scrivermer, MPP for St. David's riding. Flanking her were John Darcy, Manager, District "A", OHC; Robert Bradley, Director of Community Relations, OHC; Russ Scott, East Metro Regional Manager, OHC; Janet Ross, President of the RPCIA; Harold Jackman, Building Representative Manager, RPCIA; Michael Malony, Senior Area Supervisor, Regent Park North; and Mrs. Waterman.

President Harold West and members of the executive of the Busy Bee Club, welcomed their guests who included Rev. Thomas McKenna of St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church; Vaughan Bluman of Regent Park United Church; Simon Mielniezuk, RPCIA Co-ordinator; Cathy Dowdall, New Horizons; and Mrs. Yolande Byrnes, representing Donald Macdonald, MP for Rosedale.

A corsage of red roses was presented to Mrs. Kay Meek, Billy's



Billy Meek was only one of many show business people to recently entertain the elderly at Regent Park.

mother, by Mrs. Olive West.

As for Billy, he was friendly and funny and his jokes were all the better for being familiar. He explained why he hadn't worn his kilts (it was zero out and his nose was already frozen). He reflected on today's hard times with the story of MacTavish who saved 30 cents by being bawled out by his wife for not running after a tax and saving \$4.

He imitated Charlie Chaplin peeling a zippered banana and eating its insides—which turned out to be a weiner! He sang George Formby's window washer song and he even coaxed John Darcy into wearing an enormous tam o' shanter and playing an accordion duet that sounded like bagpipes.

The audience loved it! Violet Murray, in pink sequins and ostrich feathers, was a surprise guest, livening the party with songs like "I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts," "My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl," and "My Hero"

(from the Chocolate Soldier operetta).

Violinist Pete Dymont delighted with gypsy music, Strauss waltzes and Irish tunes, and Billy's other musicians were Jimmy Macdonald on piano, Billy Alford on drums, and Terry Quinn, bass. Community Guardian Des Ryan led a brief singsong. Fred Penn, the Busy Bees' own popular musician, thanked the entertainers.

Responsible for a delightful evening, followed by refreshments, were the following members of the club: Mrs. Elva Carr, Mrs. Jennie Avery, Mrs. Olive West, Mrs. Olive West, Mrs. Hazel McAuley, Mrs. Pat Barrett, Alfred Axworthy, and Harold West.

## Panel to discuss media and Ward

Does the media serve the needs of residents in Ward Seven?

That question will be answered in a panel discussion to be held in conjunction with the next General Meeting of Seven News. Representatives from the three daily papers, Seven News and the CBC will argue the issue.

The meeting will be held at Regent Park United Church, 40 Oak street on Monday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m.

### City Task Force on the Status of Tenants Public Meeting

Mon. Feb. 10 8 p.m.  
Council Chambers  
City Hall

1. Exorbitant rent increases
2. Leases and security of tenure
3. Rent subsidies or rent control
4. Do tenants have rights?
5. The status of roomers
6. Lack of quality family housing
7. 'Block-busting' by developers
8. Poor Maintenance

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**My Parish is Revolting**  
by Norman Ellis, 1974  
Paperjacks, Don Mills,  
Ontario 158 pages, \$1.95

Reviewed by BARRY MORRIS

With the Don District area in rapid change (mostly with the poor on their way out) and with a number of able workers changing jobs either within the area or leaving the area, it is good that Norm Ellis has taken the time to write a summary of the experiences and experiments that All Saints Anglican Church has undergone in the recent six years.

All Saints is located at the south-east corner of Sherbourne and Dundas streets. Since it is a large plant, with several entrances, rooms, hallways, kitchens, and a religious body that no longer cherishes the whole place only for itself, the story of how the church developed a broad, and in some cases, a fairly deep ministry of care, sharing and outreach is indeed important history for us.

Some of the events or activities have been described in past issues of *Seven News* by Ellis or others utilizing All Saints for a vast number of projects—whether they be Dundas Day Centre, Downtown Community T.V., Crunch, the Union of Ontario Indians, the Over-night Drop-In (a real first for an urban city), the Friendship Centre, and so on...

In high favour of Norm is that no one else has taken the time and energy to document and then record the work they have tried to do, or been a contributing part of, however indirect, however much a partial success or final failure. Lots of people have talked about the need to express their efforts or those of others in similar lines of unusual, front-line kind of downtown work; but only a couple of workers have actually done it, to be shared with us, for better or worse.

One may recall some of the works that *Seven News* have reviewed: such as Lorimer's *Working People*; Sewell's *Up Against City Hall*; Fraser's *Fighting Back*; and Bailey's *In the Belly of the Whale*. This quick reading collection of activities and personal-theological thinking by Ellis, though, must be a first for the clergy or para-clergy of the area. We'd like now to see if some of Jim Houston's, or Carmel Hili's or John Metson's or Marion Thomson's or Keith Whitney's or Jennifer Silcox's or Noreen Dunphy's work will ever come to see the helpful dawn of print? All of these people—and more, of course,—are theological animals like Ellis, but only he, the latter, has tried to bring the work, to date, before us.

Norm takes us through a detailed history of how the break came about for All Saints. From "Pews, wooden pews, heavy wooden pews, row after row, they stood in their massed defiant ranks in martial array of English oak and brown ecclesiastical uniform, beneath the flags of Empire and Dominion, impervious to change, impervious to cannonfire" (49)...to a wide-open, come one—come all use of the whole building's space, most of all including the once sacred, hardly used sanctuary.

"Religion would yield to Christianity! Not only would we pray for all sorts and conditions of men, but the doors would ... be flung open to them. Here would be a place of rest and refreshment for lonely people who otherwise would be just sitting in their rooms looking at four walls, or walking the streets, or passing time in

## My parish is revolting

the pub. We would try to provide services for the greatest needs of the neighbourhood; these services or agencies would be located in the transepts or side-aisles in little offices ... they would give help in matters of mental health, unemployment, room-registry, addiction, legal-aid, care of Canadian Indian children and general counselling." (52f.)

Ellis lays bare the bones for a ministry or service of befriending the lonely or outcast or plain poor (depressed and oppressed); and a ministry of throwing together, pot-luck style, a mess of varying kinds and levels of activities. It is a menu and program style of cross-fertilizing to get the best out of the ordinary desires and efforts of street people. Some of his best thinking comes out when Ellis shares his personal reading or hard looks at what has been done elsewhere, as a guide for reforming and revitalizing the All Saints animal.

For example, I found his passages on "The Church & the Workingman" (Ch. 3), "The Secular Church" (Ch. 7) and "The Agape Supper" (Ch. 9) particularly helpful. Admitting that the church, wherever, has not ever had a good record with the poor, and for pretty sound reasons (suspicion, betrayal, irrelevance or trivia, as well as cowardice avoidances of the conditions and obstacles to resolving root poverty), is honest writing.

"How often in moments of depression and nigh-despair I had wondered if I should move my ministry to the rarified atmosphere of the suburbs, where people go to church. But this would be to share the retreat, the strategic withdrawal. If the church is of no use in the slums, what real use is it anywhere?" (73).

Yet, at this point on this theme of calling the church to her own origins or mandate to engage with the poor to practice justice or liberation is where Ellis is most weakest in his book. Unfortunately, Norm hardly seems aware of the heavy, very disturbing, burning hammer of social justice that infiltrates quite a bit of the Biblical record of some quite mad, strange band of prophets, including Jesus, whom Norm does like to quote.

For example, while the familiar Luke 4:18-19 passage of Jesus, quoting from the prophet Isaiah 61, is mentioned as one of the three key authorities "...firmly behind all our thoughts, planning, endeavours" (43), Norm does not then, after, or anywhere go on to mention whether the most basic points of justice or liberty for the poor are ever to be taken seriously.

Seriously, that is, beyond the first-aid treatment level of serving coffee or getting someone a room or referring a person to a psychiatrist or social worker or to A.A. Only the individual or the person in the context of a small group (church, or meal or study fellowship) is mentioned, but not the pursuit of the many, many sores and grievances that people have that are but tips of the ugly iceberg that plagues downtown, kicked-around, contained or oppressed life.

Hasn't All Saints ever taken a tenants' complaint a step further than an eviction or an unfair rent increase to see the plain, deeper need for reforms in the Landlord-Tenant Act (rent control, or better protection against arbitrary evictions)? Hasn't the ministry ever seen that the constant need for hand-outs for food or for clothing or even for a rest/relief from too cramped living space is tied into the rich who have a corner on the money, the goods and the control of the services? That by keeping all

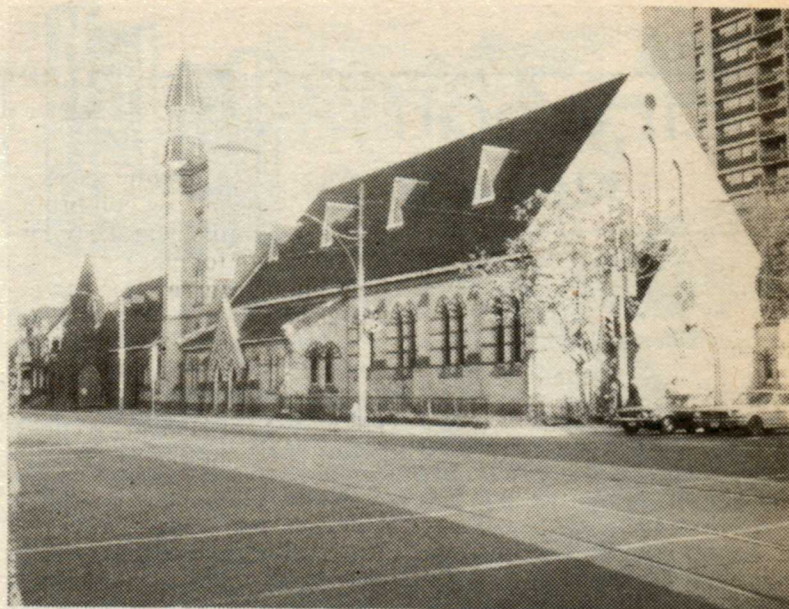
this unto themselves, except for charity for the poor, the church can be a collaborating, evil part?

Has Norm seen and heard the message, fairly plain, of the South St. James Town tragedy?

And what about the virtual elimination of the right of the poor—to be able to continue to live in the downtown area? What about the quick, profit-hungry invasion of the hi-rise gang that builds, in the place of the housing stocks, human filing cabinets that the poor cannot afford?

In the last chapter, Ellis begins to raise the dark question of whether All Saints has a future, after all; after all the detailed and quite patient work to set up free-lance, open-ended, informal places for helpful projects to have a home, no strings attached. "Circumstances beyond our control will decide and dictate future policy. The whole area of our parish is in process of reconstruction and of planning for reconstruction." (147)

Maybe, instead of making all this planning by outside forces, out



of control of the poor, sound as if fate or providence is at deterministic work, Norm and his core would do well to join some of the other conscience forces in the Don District.

He should try to say no to the damage being done and try to say yes to the right of the poor to protect their needs, interests and hopes. There are some co-operative people and organizations

at work to receive a willing and expanding Norm Ellis and people.

From this belly of a whale of a country, elsewhere, I will keep on reading *Seven News* to hear of this day: love and mercy, our friends, must be combined with justice strategies and power building structures to make the difference. Time and again—since those in power must be made to have to justify it, daily (Dag Hammarskjöld).

## One man's fight against Toronto Hydro

by ART MOSES

Many Ward 7 residents know what it's like to pay the monthly hydro bill.

Most probably think the money goes to Toronto Hydro, a public body responsible to the citizens of Toronto, subject to public scrutiny the same way City Hall must occasionally answer for its decisions.

They're right that their cash goes to the Toronto Hydro Electric System, but dead wrong if they assume the system is publicly accountable.

That's what Cahi Kalevar found out when he tried to examine Toronto Hydro documents to see whether electricity rates to residential customers were justified. He also wanted to know whether the system was doing its best to conserve energy at a time of much-publicized shortages.

Kalevar is an electrical engineer. He suspects Toronto Hydro's biggest customers—industry and downtown office buildings—are wasting energy.

"If we could find out where energy is being wasted we could lower hydro rates to residential customers over time," he told *7 News* in an interview.

"But the point is we can't get any information about energy use from the hydro commissioners who supposedly represent the public."

Toronto City Council re-appointed former Metro Toronto chairman Fred "Big Daddy" Gardiner as its rep on the Hydro Commission in early 1973, along with Mayor David Crombie. But Crombie rarely has time to attend Hydro meetings, leaving its affairs in the hands of Gardiner and Ontario government-appointedee Richard Horkins, a former Toronto alderman.

When Toronto's executive committee urged Toronto Hydro to do its best to conserve energy (after prodding from Kalevar in the spring of 1973) Gardiner responded, "Hydro is in the business of selling power,"—not conserving energy.

When Kalevar and a group of downtown residents asked for agendas and minutes for Toronto Hydro

meetings, a Hydro official told them "it would be a serious interference with the function of the commissioners if our employees were required to distribute minutes or agendas of meetings."

Only after an 18-month struggle, and after Crombie gave partial support to the demand for minutes, did the commissioners agree to furnish a copy of their minutes to the City Clerk two weeks after each meeting. The Clerk lets members of the public see them.

"But the minutes provide very little information," Kalevar says. "And whenever I come to Hydro meetings, they quickly move into closed session to allegedly discuss 'personnel matters.'"

The commissioners still refuse to provide copies of their agendas in advance.

Their refusal to provide information on proposed rate changes is supported by provincial legislation. Section 96 of the Power Corporation Act requires that rates not be made public until they are agreed to by Ontario Hydro, which sells power to local hydro systems, and the municipal commissioners.

St. David's riding MLA Margaret Scrivener doubts anything could be gained by opening Hydro's rate discussions to public scrutiny.

"I wonder what the average newspaper man or citizen onlooker could benefit from open proceedings," she said in an interview. "For example the TTC a few years ago instituted public meetings. I don't know if anything productive has come out of this."

"I've never heard of this section in the Power Corporation Act, but I would guess it follows the same concept as for the acquisition of land by a public body. The minute anybody heard the city wanted to buy a piece of land, the price would skyrocket, so proceedings must be secret."

Scrivener did not say how land acquisition related to setting hydro rates. She promised to look into the matter.

Kalevar says the Toronto Hydro system owns assets equal to the assets of the city of Toronto—"around

1/4 billion dollars."

"The city has a mayor and 22 aldermen to supervise its assets. Surely Toronto Hydro should have more than two people representing the public running its affairs," he said.

Expansion of the hydro commission has been endorsed by the city's executive committee, but no action has been taken.

One of the most infuriating examples of energy waste is downtown office towers which keep their lights on all night, Kalevar says.

When Kalevar complained about it last September, Toronto Hydro general manager B. Prentice wrote to the city, claiming many office buildings leave lights on a source of heat.

"If the lights are turned off alternative sources of heat would be utilized and this may in turn contribute to an increase in air pollution," Prentice wrote.

But Prentice was directly contradicted by Ontario's deputy energy minister R. M. Dillon two weeks later.

In a speech to a meeting of heating and ventilating engineers, Dillon said "An over-lighting design philosophy cannot be condoned. Installing over abundant lighting to save space heating is, I suggest, unsound practice."

Dillon suggested that office tower designers could accomplish similar heating goals using less electrical energy.

Kalevar points out that Sweden, a country with a living standard similar to Canada's, uses only two-thirds of the energy per person that we use. He wants Toronto Hydro to push energy conservation with its largest customers.

"Big Daddy" Gardiner will likely try to get his Toronto Hydro job back when his term expires in January. The appointment carries with it a free chauffeur-driven limousine. When city council sits down to consider the issue, it'll be faced with another job application—from Chai Kalevar.

Oh yes, residential hydro rates will go up about 40 cents a month in Toronto, starting Jan. 1.

## Newsroundup

# Chinese residents celebrate Year of the Rabbit

The 7 News review copies of "The Trouble With Co-ops" by Janice Dineen and "My Parish is Revolting" by Norman Ellis have been donated to the Parliament Library where they may be obtained free on loan...

A special grant from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has been used to hire Mary Montague as a community worker for the residents of the DACHI project....

The Exploding Myths Comic Collective has published a second magazine. It's 20 pages in comic and picture form and is about the housing industry. Their first booklet, titled "More than the Price is Rigged" was on the food industry. Both are available for 25 cents each from Box 6646, Station "A", Toronto....

Seven News has hired Scott Willows as its new advertising salesperson. He replaces Carolyn Barber who will still work as a volunteer for the paper....

An open poetry reading, featuring poet Gladys Cowell, will be held at the Parliament Library House, 265 Gerrard East on Thurs. Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free....

Jig-saw puzzle buffs in the Don District who are interested in exchanging puzzles are asked to call Kate Stevens at WA 5-6981....

New Community Service Police Officers working out of 51 Division in Ward Seven are Bill Tewkesbury and Al Robertson. Both have worked in uniform in the area for six years....

Free English classes for people in the St. Jamestown area will be held Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11 at St. Simons Anglican church, 40 Howard St. A free nursery is provided for children. For more information phone Nancy Barnard at 925-9620....

A free concert to celebrate Brotherhood Week will be held at WoodGreen United Church, Queen and Logan, at 2:15 on Sunday, Feb. 2. Featured will be a cantor, a choir and a band....

A price war between the three Submarine stores on Parliament street has flared up again. Biggest loser is John's Grill, a restaurant located right in the middle. It is now staying open 24 hours to meet the increased competition.

A LIP project called Rent-a-Van is now in business. It will

provide a free moving service for needy people or non-profit groups in Ward Seven. To order the service or for more information, phone Murray Carman at 961-2844....

The Don Vale Chorale Society will hold its first rehearsal on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 363 Wellesley Street from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Meetings will be every second Tuesday from then on. Anyone from Ward Seven over the age of 13 is welcome to attend. For more info call John Piper at 921-7798 or Carolyn Barber at 925-6407....

Free Pottery Classes for adults and children will be starting at the Don Vale Community Centre in mid-February. For more info, call the Centre at 921-2426....

Central Neighbourhood House, along with St. Christopher House and University Settlement House are being researched by Harriet Parsons for a history she is writing on them....

Injured Workman's Consultants is moving from its space in the Don Vale Community Centre. There will be some delay in service until they complete the move but they plan to open soon at their new location on Dundas Street, west of Parliament....

Last person to be hired under the current LIP program is Neil Rothenburg who will coordinate the setting up of a Food Club for Central Neighbourhood House....

Free classes in drama are available for the whole family, including children aged 6 and up, at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester street every Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the lounge....

A new photography workshop for teens 12-18 will begin on Thursdays, starting Feb. 13, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Parliament Library House, 265 Gerrard East. The workshop is free but bring your own camera....

A free income tax clinic, by appointment only, will be held at the Neighbourhood Information Post evenings starting Monday, Feb. 17. For information or an appointment, phone 924-2543....

The widely acclaimed film "Bleeker Street" will be shown at a film nite to be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wed. Feb. 5 at the Don Vale Community Centre.

Admission is 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for kids....

DIED: Bob Caughell, Community Relations Officer in the Don District between 1969-1974, of a heart attack. He was 33 years old and is survived by his wife and five children....

Thanks to Peter Akehurst for a recent small cash donation to Seven News; also to John Piper for a donation of two Olympic Lottery Tickets. Now if we just win the grand prize....

Chinese residents in the

Riverdale area are planning a two-day Spring Festival to celebrate the up-coming Year of the Rabbit. It will be held at WoodGreen Community Centre, 835 Queen East on Sat. and Sun. Feb. 15 and 16 from 2 to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$1.00 rom WoodGreen, phone 461-7668 for information....

St. Paul's Church hockey teams will hold a St. Valentine Dance at St. Paul's Hall, Queen and Power streets between 8:30 and 1 a.m. on Friday Feb. 14.

Tickets are \$3 per person....

A Rummage and Bake Sale will be held at the Don Vale Community Centre on Sat. Feb. 15 starting at 10 a.m. Donations of clothes, furniture and baked goods are still needed. Bring them to the Centre at 80 Winchester or phone 921-2426 for a pick-up....

(The cost of presenting this column is offset by an on-going grant from the Office of Community Consultation, Ontario.)

## Grape boycott active in Ward

by CARMEL HILI

The boycott of the California grapes and lettuce is still with us in Ward Seven. Anytime you go to St. Jamestown Dominion store or some other prominent Dominion store you are bound to meet picketers handing out leaflets and asking you to refrain from buying grapes and lettuce or from shopping at Dominion.

Being on the picket line for a few hours can provide one with a rare look at the patterns and habits that the St. Jamestown residents and others develop. Their responses range from the most sympathetic ("right on," "keep it up," "I won't cross the picket line,") through the arrogant ("I'll do what I want," "mind your business,") to cutting remarks.

Why should people cut you to pieces for trying to enlist their support for a labour cause? A fellow on the picket line said in fun that picketers should be decorated for their community service: they are willing scapegoats to a lot of silently angry and frustrated people who vent their spleen on them. Some people react negatively because they feel that this issue should concern the Americans only: and sometimes, this comes surprisingly from people who had been or are involved in the labour movement. How can you explain that our eating habits and shopping patterns can help keep an oppressive system and unjust farm labour relations operating in other parts of the world?

However, there is also an element in the community that instinctively warms up to the picket line: that East European who gives you the V sign and tells you "Me: no cross picket line: you know that," and that youthful girl who was asked not to buy grapes and who in turn inquired if there was a picket line and upon being answered yes, volunteered not to shop at Dominion even though the store was next door to her home. Others like her, support the farm-workers' cause to the extent of inconveniencing themselves at shopping somewhere else. Even among those in Ward Seven who do not support the secondary boycott of shopping elsewhere, you get the feeling of a lot of sympathy for the cause. When the strategy called for soliciting signatures from people pledging to boycott grapes and lettuce to show Dominion that its clients wanted the grapes and lettuce off its shelves, many people signed up.

The boycott has become a local issue and is discussed in homes, centres, churches. Many sport buttons on their lapels while some institutions have set up big billboards urging people to support the boycott. The picket lines are made mostly of people who live in and sometime are heavily committed to the community and represent a cross-section of it: young and middle-aged, students and professionals, community workers and clergy, singles and married. On the last few Saturdays, Ward Seven alderman, Janet Howard showed

up at the St. Jamestown Dominion picket line. So did Ward Six Allan Sparrow and Ward 10 William Kilbourn.

I was talking the other day with a friend whose brother is the mayor of Hamilton. They had a big rally for the boycott down there and the mayor took part in it and supported it to the hilt. Hamilton is a union city. You hear about Oshawa forcing all the Dominion stores to clean up their shelves of their scab grapes and lettuce. And you wonder when this would happen eventually in Toronto, in the Don area and St. Jamestown. In the meantime, when you see those volunteer picketers on Saturdays in front of the stores, give them a warm word: they are freezing in the cold with a cause and a hope to warm them up.

Angry, anxious or distraught? Want some good therapy? Then write a 'Letter to the Editor', SEVEN NEWS, 265 Gerrard St. E.

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## Local businesses doing well

by SCOTT WILLOWS

This week I visited some of those familiar small shops and businesses in our area. I wanted to find out first of all how hard they were being hit by those current inflationary trends. Secondly I wanted to know why in this day and age they chose to remain or become self-employed.

There is a smiling little lady in blue at Bond's Bakery who works every day six days a week from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. She and her husband have been in that location for fifteen years, arranging the pastries hot from the oven, stacking the brown loaves on well scrubbed shelves; and packaging and ringing up the sales. Coming straight from Greece in 1951, they started with a small restaurant in the Queen and Spadina area.

Now they employ three bakers, and run a roaring business. The rising costs of sugar, flour, and shortening have been taking their toll in slight price hikes; however she maintains that business has not been affected. Before I leave, she leans over the counter and tells me that the only thing worthwhile in life is hard work. She has an evangelical gleam in her eye, and as she bustles back to her customers I know she is sincere.

Down the street a Yugoslavian shoemaker, stands on a badly worn floor in the midst of his antiqued but well oiled machinery. He has been in the country for 12 years, owns a house, and has raised two children who are now married. He too tells

me that he is as busy as he has every been; however, he feels that the advantages of owning your own business are forever decreasing.

He mentions the security of working for a large company with their retirement schemes and social benefits, yet he admits that he maintains his shop because he would rather work for himself than be bossed around by a stranger.

At Bumkins Jean Gombert is sitting at the head of one of his tables, delicately dipping the leaves of a massive artichoke in butter. He worked for years on the continent and until a couple of years ago he was a waiter at the Toronto Dominion Centre. Now he works to what amounts to a sixteen hour day—but as he says "It does not bother me, this is my home."

The restaurant serves 150 people every night and has an assured reputation yet Mr. Gombert banished the thought of raising his prices. He feels that restaurant prices in Toronto are vastly inflated and that they deserve their diminishing crowds. He is generally on call all day to receive orders and put on roasts, but it is in the relaxed atmosphere of home.

He would rather do the cooking himself than be forced to pay a chef \$300. a week. As for business he warns me that he doesn't need any advertising since he is already avalanched with complaints from people who cannot get in.

Over at Sally's Emporium, there is a warmth of activity and confi-

dence which greets any visitor to this newly opened venture. Sally spent nine years as a self-taught designer from the time she started until the present Parliament St. location materialized. Her first venture was a booth at the market on Yonge St.

She spends ten to twelve hours a day choosing fabrics, making patterns and designing original outfits. Part of the operation is guild-like, as two girls assist her in sewing up the patterns she prepares.

To provide a unique selection of clothes in interesting materials is what makes Sally happy, consequently she doesn't mind working the long hours. She is providing a kind of product that you can never find in a large mass production store.

Janet Howard at her Shadow Cabinet book store probably summed up the attractiveness of owning a small business best when she suggested that it is a very personal and social undertaking. She said that the chances of breaking even were usually 50-50 but the profit and loss is less important than the idea of independence and close contact with the customer.

So what did I learn from my recent odyssey? The independent businessman seems to feel that the times are healthy, and that he is certainly not suffering any undue hardships from rising prices. Furthermore there are powerfully redeeming and renewing features of dealing with people face to face every day even if it means longer working hours and perhaps less money.

### Humour Dept:

## Rent-a-poor kid

### A 7 NEWS SATIRE

An organization is being formed in Ward Seven to find poor, unloved children in the community and rent them out to groups who need them for parties and other charity affairs.

Tentatively called "Rent-a-poor kid," the organization hopes to get a federal or provincial grant to provide its start-up funds but be self-supporting after that.

George Fassbuk, a spokesman for the planned organization, said they hope to provide a very sophisticated and professional service.

"The file on each poor child we locate will contain a written dossier as well as a photo. A certificate of poverty will also go with each child so that groups wanting poor children for a party will be guaranteed they are getting the real thing."

Mr. Fassbuk indicated that the fee for renting such children will vary from child to child. "The age of the child has to be taken into consideration," he stated, "as well as the child's degree of poverty. Another sales factor will be how many parents the child has. Top price will go for a child who is a starving orphan, aged between

seven and nine with two front teeth missing."

Mr. Fassbuk also said the address of the child was immaterial. "As long as they are from the general Ward Seven area," he stated. "We just certify they are from Cabbagetown and most people don't know the difference."

Asked about the groups that might rent such poor children, Mr. Fassbuk said it wasn't any of their concern. "As long as they provide the party or picnic or outing for the children that they say they want them for, that's good enough for us. We don't care where or how they get their money or their motives for treating the children.

"The important thing," said Mr. Fassbuk, "is that the exploitation of local children by outside groups must stop. It must be handled by an organization in the ward on a scientific basis using sound business methods."

Mr. Fassbuk sees a great future for his new service. "So many groups want to provide parties and such for the poor kids of Cabbagetown that we should have a waiting list as soon as we start up."

He also doesn't see limiting the service only to poor children. "Poor children are the grabbers," he said. "They will be our bread and butter. But we also will act as agents of two or three poor families that the media might want to exploit for various summer and winter fund drives."

Finally, Mr. Fassbuk was asked about the business aspects of the rent-a-poor-kid service. "Naturally, we can't give the kids any of the money we raise on them. If we did they would lose their amateur standing. They would no longer be poor!

No, we'll keep all the money we make to ourselves. We should make a fortune...."



Lia Golias is well-known to shoppers on Parliament Street. She works in Bond's Bakery where she always has a ready smile for customers.

Photo by Susan Emond

### Cabbagetown Renaissance

by HANS JEWINSKI

a lip-grant of selected communities  
and a middle-class slum evict the poor

crew-cut white-painters have been  
replaced by bearded sand-blasters

the committed take up urban scouting: learn to read  
subway maps: practise rat-bite cures

sporty silver avantis and english racing bicycles  
are closely watched when cabbagetowners stroll by

communication and the ultimate themes of the good life stand  
mute when selecting a suburban school for the childred

south of the st. jamestown elevators  
they believe in manifest destiny

### High Speed Chase

by HANS JEWINSKI

I could still head this patriot off  
but I see the black leather coat-tails  
flapping in rebellion  
and in cause.

And I'd rather let him peddle on  
than listen  
to another lecture  
on how he saves me taxes  
and gas  
by riding a bicycle.

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the wrong way  
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## DRAMA in the WARD

by SCOTT WILLOWS

### The Pits, Toronto Free Theatre

A disappointing production this time round. The most novel aspect of *The Pits* is the set. The audience views the action from a suspended perimeter which affords them a cross-sectional view of a rooming house. The play develops as the roomers drift and barge into each others territorial waters, but the early visual promise of the cluttered set is never matched by the content or direction of this play.

The loneliness and the private worlds of fantasy are never given a logical evaluation. The interaction which is either blatantly sexual or threatening violence never become effective because the characterization is not developed enough. Thus while the carton figures of the Pits are sometimes funny or sad, they never inspire any emotional feedback from the audience. The choice of caricature, which includes a speed freak, a western guard type, a roxy lady, and a sexually immature bachelor, among others, is all old hat. It has already been done to death by the daily media and *The Edge of Night*.

Pass go, save three dollars, and move two blocks east to the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse.



The cast of *Soup Song* stalk the main ingredient of their favorite recipe for "Rat soup."

### A Soup Song, Open Circle Theatre

Intelligent musical drama is a rare commodity. There never seems to be a shortage of frothy Anne of Green Gables type productions or Jacques Brel look-alikes circulating at the Royal Alex or in cabaret theatres in the city. Open Circle Theatre is offering something special and unique. Everything about the production is professional and consistently good, from the intricate wooden set to the efforts of the solid versatile cast.

Robert Brockhouse has successfully transferred John Gay's restoration spoof of dishonour among thieves, into a chilling Orwellian theme which centres on a world food shortage.

People are treated like livestock. Human flesh takes on the macabre delights of currency and man must pay for bankruptcy with his life. Producers, marketing boards, and supermarkets are the thinly veiled villains of this drama; however, it is the transient, blackstabbing souls of the victims which provide the ever-present threat to survival.

The appeal of this production is sparked by the beautiful music written and directed by Kevin Knelman. His own excellent and incredibly versatile guitar work leads the small ensemble through some of the most original and delightful music I have heard in or out of the theatre. The cast is in excellent voice and director Ray Whelan has managed to weld the drama and the music into an exciting whole. The impact of the terror of the greed and waste is partly destroyed by the sheer lyrical beauty of the drama.

Depending upon your view of theatre as being essentially political or artistic in function this is a strength or a weakness.

But it is rare to see both elements so well blended in one production. Highly recommended! At the Enoch Turner House, 106 Trinity at King.

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## Shuter-Milan project rejected

by SALLY CAUDWELL

The South of Carlton Working Committee's open meeting on the proposed development at the corner of Milan and Shuter left the 2-1/2 year-old project in limbo once again. Although there was much sympathy for the design of architect Dennis Bowman, the meeting felt it still contained too many shortcomings.

Criticism of the design by the meeting were: the proposal falls short of open space bylaw requirement; the plans call for 12 units — six back-to-back with no rear exits possible; parking provision were limited and awkward; there were no setbacks off a busy street.

Although the meeting was pleased that the development was aimed at family housing, had 25( allotted to AHOP and meant the utilization of vacant land, they weren't pleased with the design.

"Too austere and institutional," was one comment.

"So incredibly crowded we should forget about it," was another.

South of Carlton planner John Gladki felt that stacked townhouses offered more possibilities. Architect Bowman agreed to work up some new designs using terrace gardens or cantilevering the stories.

At the close of the meeting a sub-committee was formed to meet with the architect, consider and help in any further proposals.



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## Dining Out in Ward 7

by SCOTT WILLOWS

### George's Spaghetti House

George's, as the banner proudly proclaims, has been the popular home of Canadian Jazz for more than two decades. It also serves a passable variety of Italian foods.

The night that we decided to make our sojourn we preceded the jazz crowd. Consequently we were for a time, treated to the rare sight of a famous flute player talking to his microphones.

George's is a medium sized restaurant with an economical decor and a cheery atmosphere. There is a confidence about this Toronto institution, which leaves it free to deal with the amenities of its own assured success. The pride of the staff and their warmness cannot help but be transmitted to the guests and their surroundings.

We chose the daily special, a four course affair at a modest price of \$5.50, which highlighted Chicken Cacciatore.

The bread arrived in a basket, fresh from the refrigerator with the traditional sterile slabs of butter on the side. It was good bread but it would have been better hot. This was followed by a crisp green salad, with an interesting dressing, which as far as I could make out was a combination of a cocktail sauce with a sweet and sour French dressing.

The next course was a miniature pizza subdued in taste but of an adequate tomato sauce, pepperoni, and cheese formula.

The headliner came next with a large sideorder of cannelloni. The sauce on the cacciatore was undistinguished however, the accompanying vegetables were fresh and cooked evenly. The chicken itself was rather dry and not completely warmed through. The cannelloni was the usual dough channels surrounded by a particularly uninspired meat sauce. At any rate by the time we came to the cannelloni we were too full to do any thing but sample it. The bill with a carafe of dry red wine and coffee came to \$15.00.

The service is excellent and friendly. Our waiter had the exact combination of timing and the expected Latin cheekiness to make us feel at home.

The food at George's is averaged at best and I can think of a half a dozen other Italian restaurants which serve better food, but not many can match the relaxed atmosphere and charm of Georges.

### The Hellenic Place (On Danforth near Broadview)

There is a new addition to the array of Greek restaurants on the Danforth. It is as yet unlicensed and the Greek part of the menu is curiously limited to one item; however the service is so attentive and the food is so good that it deserves a mention here.

I tried the Greek gourmet salad and Shishkebob Greek style, garnished and they were both of a very high quality.

The salad, for a mere dollar, was an ample crisp combination of lettuce, carrots, green peppers, onions, sizable chunks of Feta cheese, and a number of big fresh ripe olives. This was all lightly touched by a beautiful vinaigrette dressing with oregano and dried parsley. Superb!

The lamb still on the skewer with onions and peppers, was a large portion and cooked to a timely medium rare stage. The accompanying rice pilaff and roast potato (which seems to be the official and very strange accompaniment of shishkebob wherever you go), were nonetheless not overdone or overbearingly heavy.

The restaurant is only a week old and my host appeared to be filling the roles of waiter, chef, cashier, and busboy. My criticism of this fledgling business could well apply to many of the restaurants already established. The decor is garish though perhaps more subdued than the others. The menu compromises itself with North American fare such as omelettes and three decker sandwiches and burger treats. I should think that if a kitchen is capable of turning out good ethnic dishes that it should expand that facility and leave the production of burger treats to Harveys or Macdonalds.

My meal came to \$5.50 with tax and I hope that the owners of this new enterprise continue to cultivate their Hellenic gastronomic abilities.

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# Meeting approves Greek Culture program

by Doug Barr & Gordon Cressy

Over 250 people turned out on Thursday January 16th at Jackman School to discuss an experimental educational program for two schools in Ward 7. The meeting was called in accordance with the wishes of the Toronto Board and the Ministry of Education to get the reaction of both the Jackman and Frankland School Communities to a Greco-Canadian Bicultural/Bilingual Immersion Program which has been proposed for the schools.

Following a request from the Greek Community, the Toronto Board approved the concept of the program as far back as August 2, 1973. Since then, Board officials have been working with the Greek Community to hammer out a workable program.

Prior to January 16th several attempts were made to acquaint interested residents with the basic principles of the proposed program.

The January 16th meeting was chaired by the Rev. Hugh Rose, Jackman area resident and Minister of Eastminster United Church. Mr. Rose suggested guidelines to establish who could vote at the meeting. It was finally agreed by a large majority that all residents, 16 years of age and over of the two school attendance areas and all parents whose children were attending the two schools regardless of their place of residence were eligible to vote.

Debate was lively and often quite heated. The following represent excerpts and highlights: Mr. G. McKenzie of Playter Crescent stated that he understood that implementation of any program would come only after community consultation and he questioned whether or not a single meeting was sufficient to achieve this. A

letter from Helen Lenskyj of the Frankland Community Council was read which indicated that the F.C.C. had passed a motion giving full endorsement to the program.

Questions were raised about specific details of the program. How would pupils not taking part in the program spend their time? (At Jackman classes are to be held after school at 3:15; at Frankland, students not participating will carry on with regular activity work.) How much will it cost the Toronto Board? (Costs are to be borne totally by the Greek community.) Are they in agreement? (Mr. Constantine Lambrigopoulos representing the Greek Community of Metro Toronto stated—yes, they were prepared to pay for teachers, supplies etc.) Would there be any loss of teaching time to Anglo-Saxon students asked Mr. Winterbottom? (No, other lessons would go on as usual during the program.)

Barry Walker, a teacher at Jackman raised concerns about available space and Mrs. Machin, principal, stated that space would be available.

Michael Craig of Fulton Avenue doubted there would be any detrimental effect on non-Greek students as attendance was purely voluntary. Alderman Janet Howard indicated her support of the program and her pride that it was to be started in Ward 7.

Brian Hay of Butternut Street felt that the program would help ease some of the frustrations and stresses, but stated that he felt it was not the function of the public school to provide the program as part of the curriculum.

Mrs. Vern Burnett moved that because the hour was late and there were many more questions to be answered that the meeting adjourn to meet another time. After much

discussion the motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

Jim Houston of Grandview Avenue eventually moved that the meeting approve in principle the program as received. An amendment specified that it be implemented as soon as possible preferably within the next two months. During discussion Mr. McKenzie felt that another meeting to discuss implementation should be held and that this meeting should confine itself to an explanation of the program.

The vote to approve the proposed program passed 167 to 17. The difference (43) between those who voted and those who were eligible to vote was related to both the lateness of the hour and the fact that several residents walked out following the failure of the motion to adjourn the meeting to another time.

A second amendment instructing the Board to set up a formal procedure of hearing objections and refining the program to meet these objections was soundly defeated.

Officials present indicated that over half of those leaving before the final vote were members of the Greek community.

At the meeting's end, those attending were offered an opportunity to write down in detail their comments on the proposed program on the understanding that these would be included when the Toronto Board forwarded its report to the Provincial Ministry of Education.

Following endorsement by the Toronto Board at its next meeting on Feb. 13th, the program will go forward to the Minister of Education for final approval. It is expected that the program could be operational during the month of March.



Pictured above, from left to right are Rocky Walton, Rick Bland, Jimmy Bland, Willie Featherstone and his father, Mr. Featherstone. All are members of the Cabbagetown Boxing Club. Willie Featherstone and Jimmy Bland along with Bobby Bland were winners in the Northern Olympic Games held January 3rd in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

## Local Boxers to fight Detroit champs

A team of four boxers from Kronk Boxing Club, one of the top clubs in the U.S.A. will provide the main draw at the next card being held at the Cabbagetown Boxing Club.

Fight time is 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 9 at the Cabbagetown Ring at 2 Lancaster (off Parliament just north of Winchester).

The main event will pit Bernie Guindon against Wilson Bell.

The semi-final will feature Nicky Furlano, a new boxer at Cabbagetown just fresh from a victory in Montreal over Ian Clyde, former North American Boxing champ.

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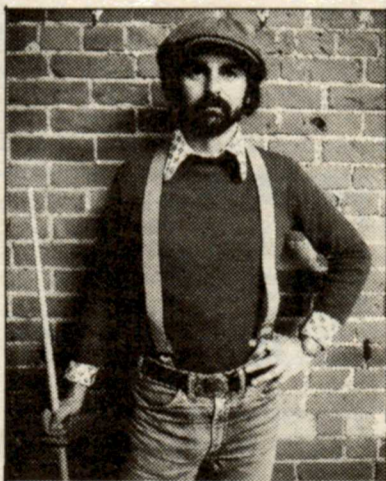
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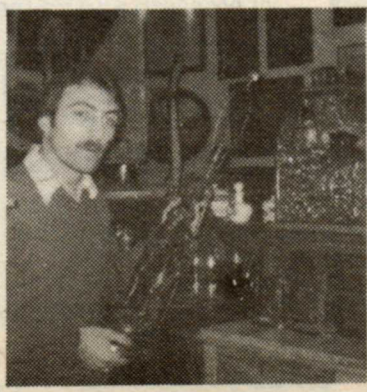
## OPENINGS

Recently the Toronto Star reported the demise of a veritable Toronto institution. 'Jack Himself', that Queen St. nuts and bolts king, has retired to the land of sand and sharks in Florida.

However that hallowed landmark is being more than amply served by a bright new enterprise under the banner of CABBAGETOWN ANTIQUES. Jim Hannan, 27, and Darlene Smith, 21, have already assembled a bonanza of Canadiana, art deco, stained glass, and nostalgia. Jim is no newcomer to this business, and the fine condition of his materials bear striking testimony to his particular skills in stripping, and upholstery. But then Jim, originally from Scotland, is descended from two generations of antique dealers. 241 Queen St. East, 360-8121



An army of young businesspeople and renovators have invaded the Queen St. area of late; and, they are threatening the existing buildings and storefronts with a respectability which even their original benefactors would not have thought possible. In many cases truly imaginative types such as Les Levine of CABBAGETOWN BILLIARDS, are trying to maintain the original function of the property, but give it that added touch of class which is keeping with the rebirth of the area. A beautiful natural brick interior, and the classic barber's throne in the window tells you that Cabbagetown Billiards is not your ordinary poolhall. It's just west of Parliament on Queen, beside Kitsch. Check it out.



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